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CUDDLE COTS APPEAL IN MEMORY OF BELLA

Report by **Kenny Parker**

Couple set up foundation to help other grieving parents spend more precious time with their stillborn babies

A WEST Lancs mum who lost her baby when seven months pregnant, after undergoing major surgery, is raising money for special cuddle cots which allow parents to spend precious time with their stillborn babies before they are laid to rest.

Laura Duran-Smith from Westhead was rushed to Southport Hospital in January for what proved to be lifesaving surgery to remove most of her small bowel.

Tragically, as a consequence of the procedure, her baby girl, Isabella Jayne, was stillborn.

However, although she was unconscious and in intensive care for three days, Laura was still able to spend time with her baby after the hospital obtained a cuddle cot from another trust.

A cuddle cot is a cooling mattress that slows down the body's deterioration and can be placed in a cot or a pram, enabling parents to stay with their babies for days or even weeks before their funeral, hugging them, dressing them and even taking them out for walks.

Following their own experience, 31-year-old Laura, and husband James, 35, set up the Bella Butterfly Foundation with the aim of purchasing cuddle cots for Southport Hospital and other NHS trusts.

The couple, who have a five-year-old son Oscar, have already raised £2,000 - through raffles and a sponsored half-marathon run by James - which will buy a cot for Southport Hospital. However they are continuing to raise funds for Salford Royal Hospital, where Laura continues to be supported during her recovery, and hope to help other hospitals in the future.

A fundraising page for the appeal has been set up at www.gofundme.com/the-bella-butterfly-foundation.

Crucial

Laura says that working for the foundation has brought the couple comfort during an "extremely traumatic" time. Having the cuddle cot meant that when she woke up in intensive care three days after her operation, "I was still able to have the opportunity to meet Bella and spend some time together.

"I really believe that every hospital should have a cuddle cot to help bereaved parents at such a traumatic time, it's crucial!

"We want to be able to help people experiencing the loss of a baby in any way we can, in the name of our beautiful baby Isabella.

Laura congratulates James after his sponsored half-marathon at Tatton Park, Cheshire in aid of the couple's Bella Butterfly Foundation.

"In my case a cot had to brought from another hospital, that's why we fundraised to have one actually situated at Southport Hospital. Obviously, you hope it never has to be used but if it does, at least it will give the grieving parents some comfort.

"It's been hard work but we have to continue to raise money for other trusts."

Laura added: "We'd also like to say a big thank-you from us as a family for all of the incredible support so far from all of the Westhead community and local businesses in Ormskirk and the surrounding areas."

West Lancs MP, Rosie Cooper is appealing to the local community to get behind the appeal.

She said: "What an absolutely devastating event for Mr and Mrs Duran-Smith. The resilience they have shown and their desire to help other grieving parents in the name of their daughter Bella is amazing.

"I hope the community can get behind them and help with their efforts to secure the money needed to buy this vital piece of equipment for other hospitals."

Lyndsey Griffiths and Kayleigh Stevenson (centre) with friends and supporters at their charity bike spin.

Community rallies round bank pals' charity spin

WORKMATES Lyndsey Griffiths and Kayleigh Stevenson got more support than they were banking on when they staged a sponsored charity spin cycle event in Ormskirk town centre.

The pair, who work for Barclays, will take part in next year's London Marathon in aid of charity, Maggies, which provides free practical, emotional and social support to people with cancer and their family and friends at 21 centres across the UK.

Their target is to raise £3,000 each for the cause and to get the fundraising underway they held a spin cycle event at local bar

Continued inside

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McComb Students events manager Makayla Brash (centre) and director Paul McComb pictured with some of the guests at the Community Christmas lunch and entertainment at The Civic.

Senior citizens enjoy free festive treat

A LOCAL student accommodation provider has once again served up a free Christmas meal and entertainment for senior citizens in Ormskirk.

Following on from last year's inaugural event, the McComb Students Company, which owns and manages private student halls and apartments in the town, laid on a three-course meal for more than 140 guests at Ormskirk Civic Hall (The Civic) in Southport Road.

Student volunteers waited on the pensioners who also enjoyed festive quizzes, hampers and goodie bags, plus entertainment provided by singer Marty Young

Events manager at McComb Students, Makayla Brash, said: "The event really captured the true spirit of Christmas. It was a day full of endless laughter, singing and dancing.

"Seeing the generations come together to share an afternoon of festivity and stories really made it magical and we are truly excited for next year to spread some more festive cheer."

Gas main upgrade work set to start on January 2

Disruption on busy A59 will be 'minimal' - pledge

NORTH-bound traffic on the A59 south of Ormskirk will be reduced to single lane from Wednesday, January 2 to allow engineers to replace an ageing gas pipe that runs alongside and under the road.

The works, undertaken by Cadent, the North West's gas distribution network, are scheduled to run for 17 weeks, ending in April. The gas company says planners have worked closely with Lancashire County Council's highways officers in a bid to minimise disruption and as a result the busy A59, linking Lancashire and Merseyside, will be open throughout.

However, vehicles will not be able to access the A59 from Winifred Lane, or come off the A59 onto Winifred Lane, from January 16 to March 1. A signed diversion will be in place.

Cadent says that an 18 inches in diameter pipe running alongside and under the A59 was installed in the 1950s and is now due to be replaced.

Engineers will work towards inserting a new, durable plastic pipe into the old cast iron main. This will be from near Winifred Lane to Back Lane, Aughton, a distance of 1.8km. Gas supply should not be disrupted, the gas company says.

The team planning this job are also in discussions with neighbouring Sefton Council to consider the feasibility of extending the work into a section of the A59 in their area.

Craig Horrocks, who heads Cadent's gas mains replacement programme in the North West, said: "This is essential engineering to ensure we can keep a safe and reliable supply of gas to thousands of homes, for use in central heating systems, having hot water and for cooking meals.

"Once the new pipe is in place, it will keep energy flowing to the local area for at least 80 years."

Pals' charity cycle spin

From Page 1

Mylo & Co, cycling the equivalent of the full marathon distance.

Sponsorship and the proceeds of the sale of raffle tickets and mulled wine at the Burscough Street bar saw them raise a total of £712 on the day.

And Lyndsey, who lives in Ormskirk, said she was "touched by the support and kindness" of her fellow residents.

All the money the colleagues raise will be match-funded by Barclays and the pair held a second spin cycle event last Saturday (December 21) at the bank's Ormskirk branch in Aughton Street when the raffle was drawn.

Lyndsey said: "The local community donated some amazing prizes for the raffle and we would like to say thank-you to everyone who has supported so far, with donations and attending the events. "

The waste fly-tipped in the car park of Abbey Lakes, Up Holland.

Fly-tipper fined £340

A SKELMERSDALE resident has been ordered to pay out £340 after being convicted of fly-tipping-related offences.

Wigan & Leigh Magistrates Court heard that West Lancashire Borough Council received a complaint regarding a large amount of waste which had been tipped in the car park of Abbey Lakes, Up Holland.

This consisted of mattresses, packaging, a hoover and some bin bags of waste. Initial enquiries traced this rubbish back to a residential property in Skelmersdale and following further investigations the council established that the resident had paid a waste removal service they had seen advertised on Facebook, to remove the rubbish.

The service, 'Lift & Shift', was run by Phillip Roughley, of Elmstead, Tanhouse.

Mr Roughley was invited to attend an interview and served with a legal notice ordering him to explain how this waste was found to be tipped in Up Holland.

He failed to respond to this notice and was prosecuted for not providing the information requested by the council.

At court Mr Roughley pleaded guilty and was ordered to pay a fine of £110, a victim surcharge of £30 and a contribution to the council's costs of £200.

The council is reminding householders that it is their responsibility to make sure that if they are having waste removed it is by an authorised waste carrier and that it is disposed of correctly. People must not simply pay someone in a van to take it away.

If the person taking the waste cannot show householders a waste carriers' licence and provide them with a receipt for what they have taken (known as a waste transfer note) residents should not use their service.

Householders can check if anyone who removes waste from them has a waste carriers' licence by contacting the Environment Agency on 03708 506506 or online at www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency.

Councillor Kevin Wright, West Lancs Council's cabinet member for health and community safety, said: "The council is ambitious for West Lancashire to have a good quality and clean environment. Fly-tipping is an offence and we will continue to crackdown on those that fly-tip and deposit litter to protect the local environment."

Anyone who thinks waste has been disposed of illegally can report this on the council website at www.westlancs.gov.uk/flytipping. Problems with litter or fly-tipping can also be reported by calling 01695 577177 between 8.30am and 5.30pm, Monday to Friday.

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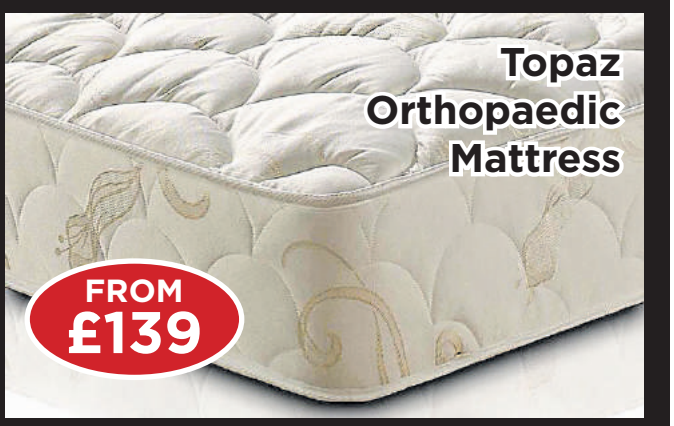

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Burglar who used a victim's patio as a toilet jailed for four years

By our **Court Reporter**

A BURGLAR who used a victim's patio as a toilet is spending Christmas and New Year behind bars.

Robert Owen, 52, of Liverpool Road North, Burscough was found guilty of burglary and attempted burglary and jailed for 48 months at Bolton Crown Court

The court heard that on the afternoon on January 29 this year Owen entered the rear garden of an address in Colburn Close, Burscough and attempted to gain entry via the rear patio doors.

The attempt was unsuccessful and Owen only managed to damage the door in the process.

However, the incident was made more disturbing for the absent owner as Owen then defecated on the patio before making his escape via the canal towpath to the rear of the premises.

Robert Owen.

Officers located and arrested Owen in early February but he was released under investigation pending forensic results.

Hiding

Then on May 19 Owen entered a property at Palais Building in Liverpool Road North, while the resident was in the process of moving home and made off with several items including the homeowner's bicycle.

He was arrested after officers from West Lancashire Target Team forced entry to his home address where he was found hiding in his bedroom.

Owen was found guilty by a jury of attempted burglary and burglary on December 12. He was sentenced to 16 months for the attempted burglary and 32 months for the burglary with the sentences to run consecutively. He was also ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £170.

A statement issued by Ormskirk and Burscough Police read: "This is a significant sentence for the local community. Clearly Robert Owen is a person who has a complete disregard for the victims of his crimes and hopefully this sentence will bring them some comfort. We will continue to target those people within our community who pose a risk and threat to others."

Got a story? Ring the New Desk on 01704 392400

Lions' collection raises £750 for cancer charity

MEMBERS of the Tawd Vale Lions Club enjoyed a successful weekend collecting for the Marie Curie cancer charity in the Concourse shopping centre with generous Christmas shoppers chipping in to the tune of £750.

Club president, Thelma Jones said: "The success of these appeals, which we have been helping with for many years now, depends on the continuing generosity of the people of Skelmersdale.

"This year we have particularly enjoyed seeing the mums and dads encouraging their children to put a donation in our collection boxes.

Support

"The importance of these caring services to our community was emphasised by the number of people who told us of the difficult experiences of their families. We also appreciate the ongoing support that the Concourse management team give to allow this collection to take place."

Marie Curie community fundraiser, Stephanie Potts, commented: "A big thank-you to Tawd Vale Lions for the help that they give to us with our collections and to the people in Skelmersdale for their generosity.

"The money raised will help our nurses to care for more people living with a terminal illness in their own homes in the coming year and to support our other services."

Tawd Vale Lions Club members collecting for Marie Curie in their new charity shop.

Meanwhile the Lions Den Charity Shop is open on Fridays and Saturdays between 10am and 2pm. Any items that people wish to donate can be dropped off there or arrangements can be made for collection of larger items.

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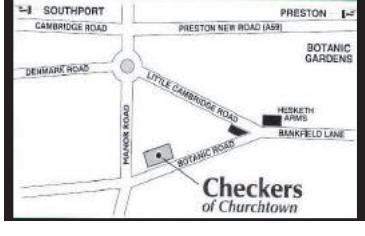

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Hotter hit £75,000 target for Marie Curie

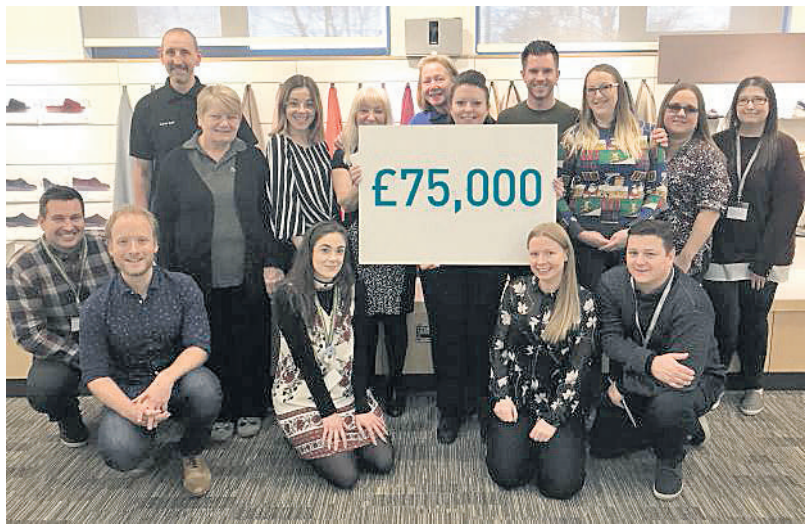
... and prepare to launch latest addition to charity collaboration

Report by **Henry James**

STAFF at Skelmersdale-based award-winning footwear company Hotter Shoes have announced that they have reached their £75,000 fundraising target for Marie Curie as they prepare to launch the latest style of their charity collaboration.

Following the successful Daffodil Mabel and Daffodil Pixie lines launched in March and September respectively, Hotter has created a limited edition Tara slip-on shoe with the signature Marie Curie daffodil print, inspired by the charity's iconic emblem.

Hotter has raised £75,000 for the charity since the launch of the partnership - enough to pay for 3,750 hours of Marie Curie nursing care, the entire Marie Curie UK nursing service for 13 hours or 416 full nine-hour Marie Curie nursing shifts.



Hotter staff celebrate reaching their charity fundraising target.

Proud

For every pair of Tara shoes sold, £20 will go to Marie Curie helping to fund an hour of Marie Curie nursing care for someone living with a terminal illness.

The shoe will be available to buy for £55 from all Hotter stores nationwide and from Hotter.com from early February.

The Tara is one of Hotter's best-selling styles, made from lightweight, breathable canvas with a supportive, comfortable sole.

Hotter chief executive, Sara Prowse, commented: "We're so proud to be partnered with Marie Curie for another year, a fantastic charity doing amazing work to support people living with a terminal illness.

"The Hotter team have been taking part in various fundraising events including car washes, treks, skydives, raffles and weight loss challenges.

"With their dedication and passion we are proud to have hit our £75,000 target.

"Following the success of last year's exclusive Marie Curie footwear, the Daffodil Mabel and Daffodil Pixie, we're certain the new Daffodil Tara will raise even more money."

And Liz Lyle, head of philanthropy and partnerships at Marie Curie, added: "We are absolutely delighted with Hotter's fantastic new design, the Daffodil Tara.

"Since our partnership with Hotter started in January 2018, Hotter's enthusiasm for raising vital funds has been superb and everyone at Marie Curie is very grateful."

Rev Rachel Hope with some of the craft group who have knitted hundreds of woollen angels.

Angels' goodwill message winging around community

THE craft group at Digmoor Methodist Church helped to spread a message of goodwill by knitting more than 800 woollen angels and distributing them throughout the community.

The idea was introduced to the church by new minister Reverend Rachel Hope who said it had been a big success in her previous parish.

The angels, which had been in the making since March, each with a goodwiil message attached, were blessed at a carol service attended by Little Digmoor Primary School before being distributed.

Among the places they went to were Elm House, Beacon View, and Stocks Hall care homes, as well as local pubs, shops and the Greenhill community centre.

Geradline Gilbert, a member of Digmoor Methodist Church, said: "So much work had gone into making the angels but they were made with love and given with love. It was a friendship exercise to the neighbourhood, sharing little messages of peace and love at Christmas time."

Angels were also recently made by parishioners of Up Holland Methodist Church and Trinity Church in Skelmersdale.

A spokesperson for Trinity Church said: "This week the rest of the angels will find a home with mums and toddlers as we give them out from church.

"The angels are flying away fast as they make their way into the communities of, Old Skelmersdale, Digmoor and Up Holland."

Meanwhile Digmoor Methodist Church will be celebrating its 150th anniversary next year (2019) and is asking for those who live in the area if they have any memories, anecdotes or photos of the church they would like to share.

If you have anything you would like to share contact Geraldine Gilbert on 01695 735027.

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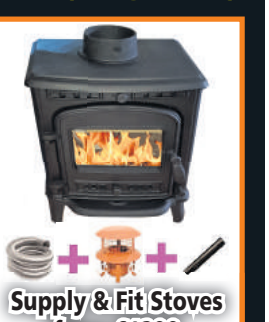

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Printing company's 12 days of giving...

STAFF at a local printers have been 'doing their bit' for the local community this month with their own version of the 12 days of Christmas.

Employees at Sturdy Print and Design at Selby Place on the Stanley Industrial Estate, Skelmersdale have been donating gifts to good causes every day for 12 days.

The event was launched by the Mayor of West Lancs, Councillor Noel Delaney on Tuesday, December 4.

Since then beneficiaries have included the Dream Makers creative arts and drama group, based at the Engine Rooms some of whose members have learning difficulties; the Birchwood Centre; Divine Days Creative Arts community group; Twinkle House; West Lancashire's Wellbeing Service; Evermoor Hub where the foodbank is run at Digmoor Community Centre; the Women's Refuge; and Ormskirk Hospital's children's ward.

The Mayor with Sturdy staff and some of the Christmas gifts for local causes.

Hillside, St Francis of Assisi, Little Digmoor and Woodland primary schools also received gifts.

Alan Langdon, quality manager at Sturdy Print and Design, said: "We have done various collections for charity before, but this was the first time that we had done something on this scale.

"It's good to give something back to the community."

Council to demand Government action on leasehold 'scandal'

Councillor Adrian Owens.

WEST Lancs Council is set to call on the Government to act over what has been described as the ongoing leasehold scandal.

A motion urging the council to demand leaseholder reform was included on the agenda for the recent meeting of the full council by Councillor Adrian Owens on behalf of the Our West Lancashire Group, and passed unanimously.

It called on the chief executive to write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, to express the council's concern about the issue and request further, pressing action not only to restrict the development of further leasehold homes, but to provide appropriate support and means of redress for existing leaseholders.

After the motion was passed, Councillor Owens commented: "Leasehold houses have caused many, including some West Lancashire residents, significant hardship and distress.

Report by **Henry James**

"Our West Lancashire councillors tabled this motion after being approached by a local resident who was being asked for £1,500 simply to give permission for them to apply to the council for permission for an extension.

"The original house builder had sold on the freehold to this company without leaseholders' knowledge and then started sending aggressive letters demanding payments for ground rent that the house builder hadn't collected."

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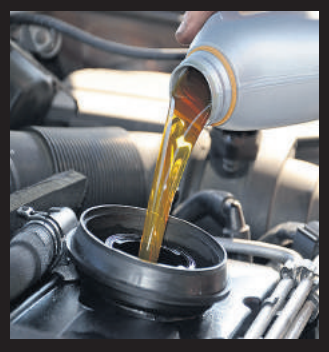

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15-Nov-19	Spain, Portugal & Canary Islands	Balmoral	14	£1,999	Southampton
24-Nov-19	France, Belgium & Spain	Braemar	9	£1,299	Southampton
26-Nov-19	Spain, Portugal & Morocco	Black Watch	11	£1,499	Liverpool
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Rail boss in call for independent inquiry to help end dispute

NORTHERN Rail is calling for an independent inquiry to help bring to an end its long-running dispute with the RMT union over the future role of guards on trains.

The company says it has invited RMT to talks at ACAS on several occasions, to resolve the issues, but without any significant progress being made.

Last Saturday (December 22) was the union's 41st day of strike action since March 2017 and there seems little sign of the two sides being able to reach a settlement.

Northern's Richard Allan.

RMT, which is seeking a guarantee that a second member of staff fully trained in safety matters and in charge of opening and closing the train doors, will be retained, has called Northern's latest move a publicity stunt and says it will continue with the strikes.

Northern's deputy managing director, Richard Allan, said: "The RMT dispute means customers, businesses and the wider economy in the North have suffered the cost of 41 days of RMT strikes, including every Saturday in September, October, November and now December. Customers, employers and colleagues are looking for both parties to resolve the dispute.

"More than 50% of all rail journeys in the UK are made on driver-controlled trains and recently the Department for Transport and Transport for the North publicly confirmed that a second person - in addition to the driver - would be retained on Northern services. This second person will provide customer service, including meeting customer needs on accessibility, safety, security, ticketing and information. Despite this, the RMT continues with its strike action.

"We call on RMT to join us in committing to an inquiry and suspending its industrial action while this takes place. This would demonstrate commitment from both sides to try and resolve the issues, reassuring customers and stakeholders that every endeavour is being made by both sides."

RMT General Secretary Mick Cash said: "The call for an inquiry is nothing more than a PR stunt and we have not seen any proposals from Northern whatsoever that would make serious progress in terms of resolving the dispute.

"The company is seeking to kick the issue of rail safety into the long grass indefinitely rather than facing up to the fundamental issue of the guard guarantee on their trains and there is no way that RMT will allow them to get away with this chicanery.

"The answer to resolving this dispute is not an inquiry but meaningful negotiations.

"However, not only is the Government working behind the scenes to block such negotiations, but it is willfully using taxpayers' money to bail out Northern for revenues lost as a result of strike action meaning the company have no financial incentive whatsoever to settle in a serious fashion.

"We don't need an inquiry, we need genuine and meaningful ACAS talks focused on retaining a guard on Northern trains with the full suite of safety and operational competencies including at the crucial platform/train interface.

"RMT stands ready for talks but we will not allow the company to railroad the issues at the heart of the dispute with meaningless gestures designed to buy time and delay a solution."

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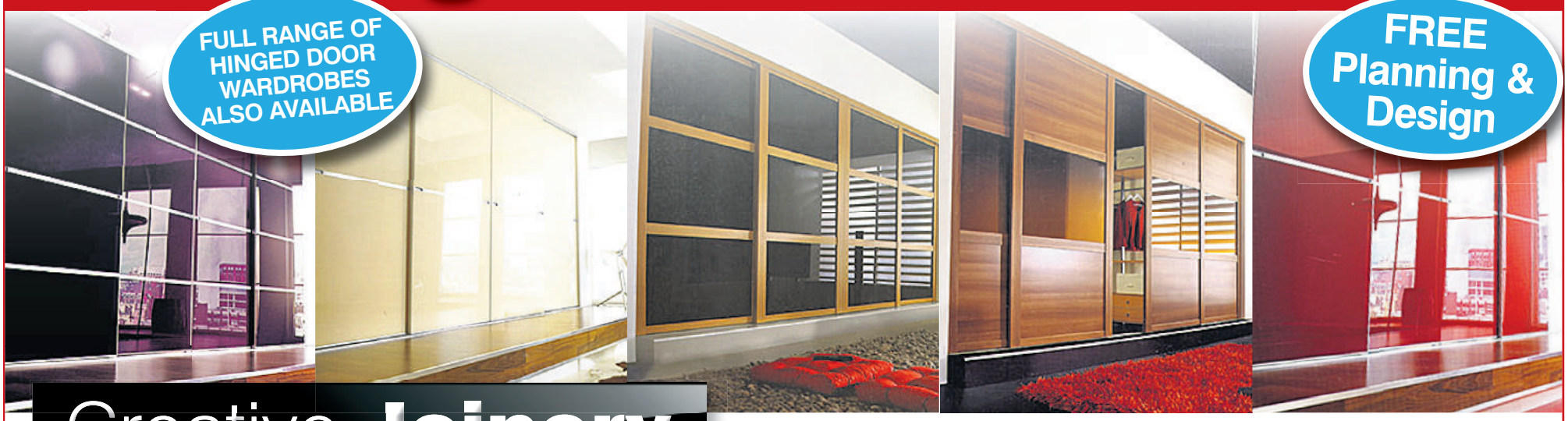

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Parents of tragic teen urge food businesses to be allergy-aware

Report by **Henry James**

Adam and Gemma Lee

THE parents of a Lancashire teenager who died after having an allergic reaction to a takeaway meal have spoken out to encourage businesses to be allergy-aware.

Adam and Gemma Lee's 15-year-old daughter Megan suffered a fatal asthma attack after eating a meal which contained peanuts.

Now, in conjunction with Trading Standards officers at Lancashire County Council, the couple have made a film urging businesses to have the 'right attitude to allergens'.

They hope the video, which features treasured photos and video of the Oswaldtwistle schoolgirl growing up, will help stop another family going through the same ordeal they have.

Gemma said: "We can't change our story as much as we would love to. But what we can do is help others by stopping this story happening to someone else's family.

And Adam added: "If businesses aren't 100 per cent sure about the ingredients in their products then they must not supply that food to their customers. It's better to be safe than sorry.

"We hope that by making this video with Trading Standards we will make business owners and their staff think about their actions. No-one wants another tragedy to happen."

David Scott, Lancashire's Trading Standards manager, said: "I would like to thank Adam and Gemma for their help in making this important video.

"I hope that by them bravely speaking out in this way it will make businesses think about their responsibilities when it comes to knowing about the food they serve and the allergens they contain.

"The county council has developed a number of resources to increase awareness of food allergy as a serious issue and help educate young people and adults about the potentially life-threatening nature of the condition.

"Our Trading Standards team will also continue to work with district council environmental health teams to increase understanding of allergies and ensure that all food businesses understand their responsibilities to provide safe food."

Dr Sakthi Karunanithi, director of public health for Lancashire County Council, added: "Food allergy is a serious and growing public health issue. There has been a dramatic increase in allergic diseases in recent years and raising awareness of this for both businesses and the public is very important.

"We want to reach as many people as possible with the message behind this campaign, and hope the video will help prevent another tragedy from happening."

The video can be found at https://youtu.be/SJhpW45c6Ho.

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There's a key in my soup!

Pensioner shocked by find but manufacturers say it's not down to them!

Report by **Henry James**

A CHAMPION reader who opened up a packet of soup to find a door key inside has been shocked by the response when she reported it to the manufacturers.

Olive Brown, who made the unusual discovery inside a packet of Knorr chicken noodle soup, contacted us after reading earlier in the year about another reader who said he had found a feather in a sandwich.

The pensioner from Ormskirk, said: "I was interested to read about the gentleman who found a feather in his sandwich a while ago and the shop did not believe him. Now I know how he feels!

"I found a key in a packet of Knorr chicken noodle, it was all encrusted with the contents. So I phoned Unilever, the company that makes the brand, and they asked me to send the key to them."

However, two weeks later when she contacted the company - which owns more than 400 brands and had a turnover of 53.7 billion euros last year - they denied liability and offered her two £5 vouchers!

A letter from the company to Mrs Brown read as follows: 'Upon inspection, from the Quality Dept at a manufacturing unit, they have confirmed that the item you were kind enough to send us is a small metal key. The key was passed through the metal detector on the production line several times and was detected and rejected 100% of the time.

"Taking all of the above into consideration our investigation has concluded that we are unable to substantiate liability for the item you found.'

The key which Mrs Brown says she found in a packet of Knorr chicken noodle soup.

An angry Olive said; "In other words, they are suggesting I'm lying. They made out that it couldn't have happened but what can't speak, can't lie.

"They made out that it just couldn't have happened but I told them I do not tell lies.

"They sent me two £5 vouchers, but I haven't used them. I told them this isn't about money. I just want them to have the decency to own up to carelessness on the part of their staff. Someone must have lost a key - it certainly isn't mine!"

A spokesperson for Unilever told the Champion: "Mrs Brown got in touch with us and we can confirm we apologised to her at the time for any distress caused as the quality and safety of our products is paramount.

"We investigated the complaint thoroughly and gave her a detailed explanation of why it is highly unlikely that this could have happened during the production process. We are sorry Mrs Brown is unhappy with our response but we believe we have done what we can to look into the case."

Free fun activities in store at libraries during festive season

A WIDE range of seasonal activities for children and families, including carol singing and craft sessions, are available in Lancashire libraries over the festive period. Many of the activities are free and there's no need to book. To find out more call 0300 123 6703 or go to www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries.

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Work underway on new Rent to Buy development

NORTH West-based housing association, One Vision Housing is now inviting expressions of interest for 'affordable' homes at a new development in Scarisbrick available under the Government's Rent to Buy scheme.

The company is currently building 40 homes at The Brook, a £5.5m development on Southport Road.

Twelve of the properties will be cottage-style apartments available for rent while the remaining 28 will be houses for sale under the Rent to Buy scheme.

The scheme is aimed at working households who intend to buy a property in the future but can't afford to at present.

Successful applicants will be given the keys to one of the new houses and pay a reduced rent on the property (80% of market value) for up to five years, to give them time to save a deposit.

During that time tenants will be given the option to buy the property under a shared ownership scheme and then buy it outright at the end of the five-year period has ended.

The development, currently under construction and due to be completed in early 2019, has been allocated £1.5m grant funding from Homes England and is part of One Vision Housing's current £110m Development Programme to deliver 1,100 new homes between 2018-21.

A computer generated image of The Brook development at Scarisbrick.

Group development director, Louise Davies, said: "One Vision Housing are delighted to be working in collaboration with MBE Construction and BTP Architects to deliver 40 affordable homes in West Lancashire. The Brook at Scarisbrick is part of our strategic development programme to support local housing need."

"As well as affordable rent properties, the development provides an affordable pathway into homeownership, with homes available for Rent to Buy. "

Vicky Saunders, managing director of BTP Architects, added: "We worked really closely with West Lancashire Planners to meet their requirements given the adjacency of the site to the Green Belt. We believe the result is a high-quality design, which ensures provision of plenty of green space, including a planted courtyard area, and is in keeping with the rural surroundings."

Primary school places application deadline looming

LANCASHIRE County Council is reminding parents that the closing date for applications for primary school places for the next school year is Tuesday, January 15.

The authority says that the quickest and easiest way to apply is online via the county council's website. Parents need to submit an application form for all children starting school, even if the child already has an older brother or sister at their preferred school.

County Councillor Susie Charles, cabinet member for children, young people and schools, said: "Christmas is a busy time but I urge parents to remember to apply online for a primary school place for their child. If a family already has a child at a school, they must still apply for a place for their younger child. And if they have twins, they'll need to fill in two application forms.

"It is also important that parents include at least one of their local schools in their preferences."

Children start primary school in the September after their fourth birthday.

For more information, visit the council's website www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools.

Parents can also call on 0300 123 6707.

Recycle your tree and help charity

RAINBOW House is offering to recycle your Christmas tree, while raising funds for its coffers in the process.

The Mawdesley-based charity, which supports children and young people with physical and neurological disabilities, will collect trees for recycling on Saturday or Sunday, January 5 or 6, for a suggested minimum donation of £10 per tree.

A team of volunteers will collect trees from surrounding areas including Ormskirk, Scarisbrick, Skelmersdale, Burscough and Parbold. Collections can be booked online at www.thelegacy-rainbow-house.com up to and including Monday, December 31.

More volunteers with vans are also needed. If you can help, email e.parish@thelegacy-rainbow-house.com.

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Primary pupils praised

PRIMARY school pupils in Lancashire have been commended for their performance in recent national tests by the county council's cabinet member for children, young people and schools.

County Councillor Susie Charles, said: "Once again our primary school children are doing well, with 65% of pupils reaching the expected standard in the key areas of reading, writing and maths. This figure has increased annually for the last three years and is definitely something of which we can be proud. Lancashire results are above the national average.

"It is also backed up by the latest Ofsted figures showing that 93% of Lancashire's primary age pupils attend schools that have been judged to be good or outstanding, compared to the national average of 87%, and the North West average of 90%.

"Well done to all our children and to their teachers, parents, and school governors. These results are a compliment to all their hard work."

Reminder that help is at hand for victims of domestic abuse over the festive period

Report by **Kenny Parker**

WEST Lancashire Community Safety Partnership (WLCSP) is reminding people that help is available for anyone experiencing domestic abuse during the festive period.

Although Christmas and New Year is an enjoyable time for most people, for those living with domestic abuse it can be a time when their situation becomes even worse.

The partnership, which is made up of local authorities including West Lancs Council and Lancashire Police, advises that anyone who is in immediate danger should dial 999 and ask for the emergency services.

For those not in immediate danger but experiencing domestic abuse, the Liberty Centre provides personalised, emotional and practical support and runs the West Lancashire Women's Refuge.

They can be contacted on their free confidential 24-hour helpline number 0808 100 3062 or on 01695 50600. More information is available on their website www.thelibertycentre.org.uk or on their Facebook page.

They may be able to assist in the provision of temporary supported accommodation.

Alternatively, the county-wide Lancashire Victim Services offers emotional support, information and practical help to victims and witnesses.

The free service provides an opportunity to speak confidentially to an independent domestic violence advisor, who is specially trained to provide non-judgemental emotional support, as well as practical help with issues including personal safety, housing and benefits.

Anyone who needs support can call 0300 323 085, email info@lancashirevictimservices.org or visit www.lancashirevictimservices.org. In addition, West Lancs Council provides details about services available to people suffering domestic violence at website www.westlancs.gov.uk/domesticviolence.

Chair of West Lancashire Community Safety Partnership, Heidi McDougall, said: "Residents suffering from domestic abuse over the festive period should know that they are not alone and that help is available during this time.

"We also urge members of the community not to be a bystander and to report any problems of domestic violence they are aware of to the police."

Eager Beavers serve up a carol singing treat

YOUNG members of a local Scout group helped to serve up some festive favourites when they went along to perform carols at a care home.

Beavers from the 45th Ormskirk (Burscough) staged their Christmas concert for residents at the Park Grove Care Home in Burscough, supported by care home staff and Scout leaders.

Beavers leader, Ann Molyneux, said: "It was a fabulous occasion. We just wanted to bring a bit of Christmas joy to the old folk. After the singing was over, the children enjoyed a drink and a cake and a chat with the old folk, to cheer them up. It was a lovely night and we may make it an annual event."

Right: The Beavers ready for their carol sing with Park Grove residents and staff.

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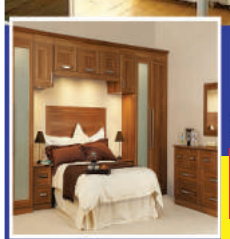

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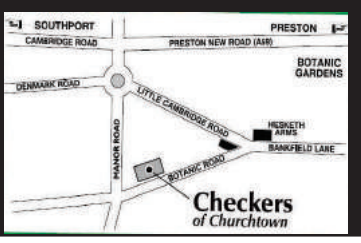

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Sun 10am-4pm

Party time for Community Activity Hub

CIVIC dignitaries from Sefton and West Lancs joined care home residents in the neighbouring boroughs for festive celebrations at a Southport hotel.

Members of the Athena Healthcare Group's Community Activity Hub enjoyed a Christmas dinner at the Royal Clifton Hotel with entertainment provided by singer Kelly Bond.

Residents of the group's homes in Southport, Ormskirk and Formby attended, along with the Mayor and Mayoress of Sefton, Councillor Dave and Mrs Wendy Robinson, and Deputy Mayor of West Lancs, Councillor Gaynar Owen.

Guests at the Athena Healthcare Group's Community Activity Hub Christmas party at the Royal Clifton Hotel.

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MONDAY
LYDIATE
Mersey Motor Boat Club
36 Pilling Lane, Lydiate L31 4HF
9am & 11am
Paula: 07484 263698

ASHURST, SKELMERSDALE
The Ashurst Centre, Lyndhurst
9am & 11am
Sue: 07817 444580

ASHURST, SKELMERSDALE
The Ashurst Centre, Lyndhurst
3.30pm, 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Sue: 07817 444580

MAGHULL
Cheshire Lines, Sefton Lane
(behind Fun Factor)
6.30pm
Michelle: 07931 125172

OLD ROAN
The Hope Centre (behind Tesco),
Aintree Lane
9.30am & 11.30am
Victoria: 07766 136641

OLD ROAN
The Hope Centre (behind Tesco),
Aintree Lane
5pm & 7pm
Victoria: 07766 136641

OLD SKELMERSDALE
The Cricket Club, Blaguegate Lane
5pm & 7pm
Paula: 07484 263698

TUESDAY
CHESHIRE LINES
Sefton Lane (behind Fun Factor)
5pm & 7pm
Sheila: 07827 335824

OLD SKELMERSDALE
The Cricket Club, Blaguegate Lane
9am & 11am
Paula: 07484 263698

WEDNESDAY
MELLING
Melling Residents Community Association
(Ratepayers Club) Melling
5pm & 7pm
Katie: 07469 193445

MAGHULL
Cheshire Lines, Sefton Lane
(behind Fun Factor)
9.30am
Sheila: 07827 335824

ORMSKIRK
Ormskirk Rugby Club,
Green Lane
9.30 & 11.30am
Tina: 0151 548 4266

ORMSKIRK
Ormskirk Rugby Club,
Green Lane
5.30 & 7.30pm
Tina: 0151 548 4266
MOVING TO TUESDAY from 8th January

MAGHULL
Cheshire Lines, Sefton Lane
(behind Fun Factor)
4.30 & 6.30pm
Emma: 07414 223 617

UP HOLLAND
UpHolland Methodist Church,
Alma Hill
9.30am
Sarah: 07969 395302

UP HOLLAND
UpHolland Methodist Church,
Alma Hill
3.30, 5.30 & 7.30pm
Sarah: 07969 395302

BURSCOUGH
Burscough Cricket Club
School Lane
3.30pm, 5.30 & 7.30pm
Kathy: 07815 199346

THURSDAY
AUGHTON
Aughton Village Hall, Winifred Lane
8.00am & 10.00am
Zoe: 01695 580 966

AUGHTON
Scout and Guide Hut
(behind Christ Church), Long Ln
5.30 & 7.30pm
Zoe: 01695 580 966

MAGHULL
Cheshire Lines, Sefton Lane
(behind Fun Factor)
3.00pm 5:00pm & 7.00pm
Sue: 07957 531346

DIGMOOR, SKELMERSDALE
Digmoor Community Centre,
Birleywood
9.30am, 11.30am
Sarah: 07792 146342

DIGMOOR, SKELMERSDALE
Digmoor Community Centre,
Birleywood
4.30pm & 6.30pm
Sarah: 07792 146342

FRIDAY
ORMSKIRK
New Pavilion
Ormskirk Cricket Club, Altys Lane
9am
Zoe: 01695 580966

MAGHULL
Cheshire Lines, Sefton Lane
(behind Fun Factor)
9:30am & 11:30am
Sue: 07957 531346

SATURDAY
KIRKBY
St. Martins Church
Peatwood Avenue
7.30am & 9.30am
Emma: 07414 223617

OLD SKELMERSDALE
Greenhill Community Room
Beech Close
(Off Lancaster Cres)
8am & 10am
Sarah: 07969 395302

ORMSKIRK
Ormskirk Rugby Club, Green Lane
7.30am & 9.30am
Tina: 0151 548 4266

ORMSKIRK
St Anne's School, Aughton Street
8.30am, 10.30am & 12.30pm
Sue: 07817 444580

MAGHULL
Cheshire Lines
Sefton Lane (behind Fun Factor)
8.30am & 10.30am
Gill: 07921 222405

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North West left behind when it comes to public transport - again!

IT gets harder and harder to know what I am talking about. Yes, I know, you could have told me that years ago, but what I am on about at the moment is the strange copy/publication dates caused by Christmas falling as it has this year.

It was bad enough last week, but at least I could be confident that my deathless prose would appear before Christmas Day itself. But this time the paper should, theoretically, be appearing on your doormat on Boxing Day. Trouble is, I reckon that your Champion won't put in an appearance until the day after at the earliest, which puts a totally different complexion on what I write.

One thing that strikes me is the unfairness inflicted each Yuletide on the people in the Maghull and Lydiate areas of Sefton by the total lack of Christmas bus services to local hospitals for those of us - and many who fall into this category are the elderly or less mobile - without access to a motor car.

Many years ago I was told that Maghull has the second-highest car ownership in the borough so I suppose this probably has some bearing on the decision. But the fact remains that those without cars have no means of visiting their loved ones on Christmas Day, whereas those living just about anywhere else in Sefton, obviously including whichever area has the dubious honour of highest car-owning level per head (Formby perhaps?) are deemed to deserve a Christmas bus service.

Actually I was thinking about this five years ago, just before my brother George died in Southport Hospital. In the event, George died before Christmas but had the need arose I suppose I would have tried to book a taxi to get me there and back because I couldn't leave my bro all alone in hospital at Christmas.

I'm sorry to be talking specifically about Sefton. I confess I don't know what, if any, arrangements are made by Lancashire County Council. I'm all for the so-called 'Northern Powerhouse' but it does seem to me that whatever government crumbs might eventually come our way, we'll be lucky if they blow into Merseyside or West Lancashire.

It seems we are to gain a 'direct' service to Scotland by train for the first time in many years. But this service, to be operated by Trans-Pennine with swish new trains, will make the journey to Edinburgh and Glasgow via Newcastle, which certainly sounds like Trans-Pennine but hardly any kind of 'direct' in my understanding of the word.

Talking of long-distance trains from Liverpool, I hear we are about to lose the 'direct' service to Norwich. Apparently East Midlands Trains who presently run this hourly service, reckon it would be more effective if the journey was split at Nottingham. How this is conducive to making the service more reliable defeats me, but what do I know?

What I do know is that not that many years ago there used to be a Liverpool-Bournemouth train (I know because I twice travelled to Oxford on it); a sleeper service to London; and 'proper' direct trains to Scotland - again I know because a late friend of mine used to travel on it to visit his sister and discovered that the coach service, though cheaper, took much too long.

And now, whatever you feel about HS2, Liverpool is to be bypassed again. Plans to join HS2 to the main Liverpool-Crewe line have been dropped to save money. For all I know it may prove that the quickest way to Liverpool from London in the future could be HS2 to Manchester and a stopping train back to Merseyside.

If I were an MP I would bring up this matter of the poorness of long-distance rail services from Liverpool (as opposed to Manchester) at every possible juncture at Westminster. And what about the mess that our local train services from Southport to Manchester and Preston to Ormskirk have got themselves into? While Northern gradually gets back to something approaching normal everywhere else, why are we being left to the last yet again?

Oh, and a very Happy New Year too.

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Lathom Park Trust chair to stand down

Report by **Kenny Parker**

CHAIRMAN of Lathom Park Trust, Paul Kenyon is stepping down after eight years in the role.

A lifelong resident of the village until 2016, Paul is well known for his talks about Lathom Park, as well as leading walks tracing its history.

The 66-year-old, who became a trustee in 2006 and chairman in 2011, is a also co-founder of the West Lancs World War One Anniversary Association and is a trustee of both the Lathom Almshouse charity and The Lady Lathom Endowment and Memorial Fund.

And although he moved away from the area two years ago he was asked by the trustees to stay on as chairman.

Paul, who is 66 and retired, said: "I lived in Lathom all my life prior to moving from the area in 2016. I can trace my ancestors, who lived in Lathom, back to the1600s and have always been interested in local history, especially the significant history of Lathom over the centuries.

"I hope I have achieved quite a bit during my years in office and believe now the time is right for me to step down as chairman and make way for someone who can hopefully be more hands-on and promote the trust further.

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow trustees and those people who have helped and supported me over the years, wishing them all the best for the future."

The trust will appoint a new chairman in the spring. Before he leaves office, however, Paul says the Lathom Park Trust is calling on all those who donated items to its historical collection to get in touch so they can be catalogued as part of the Lathom Park Digital Project.

Paul Kenyon (right) greets a visitor to a First World War commemorative event.

He said: "One of my main aims over the last decade has been to promote the work and projects of the trust and to record and recount the vast history of Lathom Park and its environs. With this in mind I am conscious that over the same years, many members have in the past donated and loaned items of historical interest to the trust.

"I have instructed an audit be carried out amongst trust members past and present to collate all those items donated over the years. This will help to create an easily accessible database of material to enable future research to be a lot easier.

"I would ask people to let us know the details of any artifact or ephemera that they may have donated in the past together with details of when it was donated and to whom.

"This will help us correctly and accurately match the donated item with the person who kindly made the donation to our archive. Please contact the secretary on 01704 631035 with the details of the items donated."

Nursery youngsters spread a little festive cheer at Age UK Well Being centre

YOUNGSTERS from Moorgate Nursery School helped to spread a little Christmas cheer at the Age UK Well Being Centre in Ormskirk.

Children and staff from the nursery joined with members of the local community in a festive singalong featuring songs from their Christmas Nativity, as well as some other familiar tunes.

Staff at the centre in Bridge Avenue said a fantastic morning was had by all.

Dancers step to it for charity

THE St George's United Reformed Church Hall Sequence Dance Group raised £287 for North West Cancer Research with a dance at Burscough British Legion.

Organiser, Ray Park said: "Everyone enjoyed themselves and we look forward to running the dance again in 2019."

The group is open to new members. Meetings are held every Saturday from 8pm at St George's United Reformed Church Hall, Northway, Maghull. They will also be meeting on New Year's Eve from 8pm. For more information call Ray or Joan on 01704 892346.

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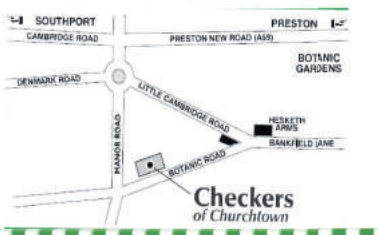

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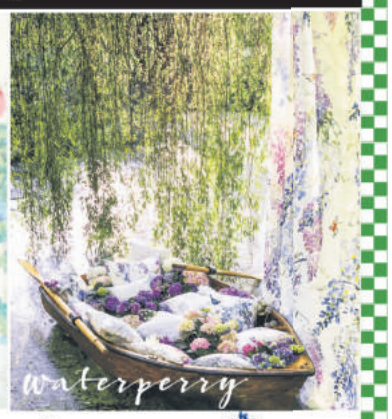

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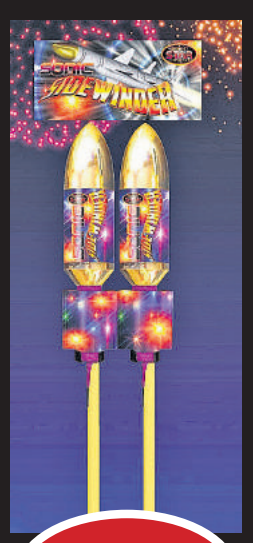

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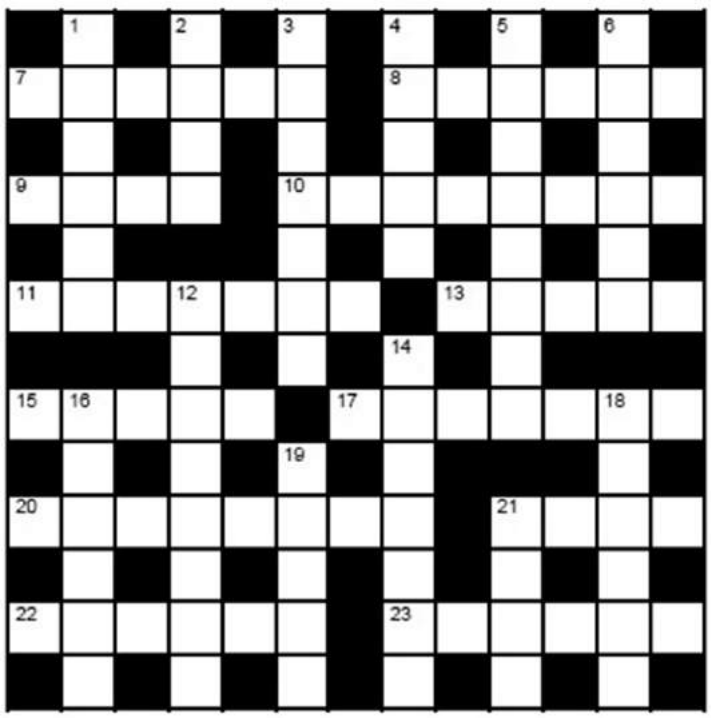

Last week's solutions:

Across: 7. Poseur. 8. Squint. 9. Mend. 10. Airflows. 11. Carrion. 13. Eclat. 15. Shock. 16. Vanilla. 18. Reported. 19. Rank. 21. Timely. 22. Larder.

Down: 1. Poke. 2. Ready reckoner. 3. Creator. 4. Usurp. 5. Public library. 6. Snowball. 12. Athletic. 14. Mandela. 17. Stays. 20. Need.

ACROSS

7. Great courage in the face of danger, especially in battle (6)
8. A very thin, long strip of pasta eaten with a sauce or in a soup (6)
9. Money in coins or notes (4)
10. Precious metal beaten into a very thin sheet and used in gilding (4, 4)
11. Coastal defence built to protect the shore from erosion or act as a breakwater (3, 4)
13. Sudden attack or incursion into enemy territory (5)
15. A weapon firing barbs attached by wires to batteries, causing temporary paralysis (5)
17. State of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty (7)
20. Done or occurring again several times in the same way (8)
21. Settee, couch (4)
22. Common skin condition (6)
23. A call made to rally soldiers for battle (3, 3)

DOWN

1. Frontage, a deceptive outward appearance (6)
2. Thick, heavy stick or bar used as a weapon (4)
3. (Of an object) easily broken or damaged (7)
4. A small hill or mound (5)
5. Common term for a moth larva that attacks certain crops, especially cotton (8)
6. Domesticated South American mammal related to the llama, valued for its wool (6)
12. At whatever time (8)
14. Cutting remark intended to humiliate or belittle someone (3-4)
16. Organisation providing a service on behalf of another company, person or group (6)
18. Physically or mentally frail, especially through age or illness (6)
19. Fragrant essential oil, typically made from rose petals (5)
21. Painful or aching (4)

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Edge Hill student names new species of fossil

AN Edge Hill University student has made his mark in the world of palaeontology by naming a new species of fossil.

Geology with physical geography student Steven Walker's research studying 400 million-year-old specimens in Morocco will now be seen and cited by academics worldwide.

The 21-year-old conducted and finalised his research working with academics from universities in the US, China and Wales.

And he subsequently presented his findings as an academic poster presentation at the Palaeontological Association annual meeting.

He also compiled a manuscript, published in Geological Society Special Publications, interpreting the fossils and naming them as a new species.

Steven says first-year field trips helped to ignite the interest that would lead to his achievement.

Steven Walker

"Studying in Anglesey and Wexford in the Republic of Ireland developed my understanding of geology and the applications of the paleoenvironment to animals living millions of years ago."

That initial interest led to Steven working on a six-week research project in summer 2017 at Edge Hill, based on fossils collected in Morocco by academics a few years earlier.

His subsequent research entailed compiling a scientific report, an academic poster, supplementary data measurements, descriptions and interpretations of the fossil, and creating graphical and geochemical figures for the manuscript.

He presented an academic poster at the Palaeontological Association international annual conference in London before inclusion into the Geological Society Special Publication.

Steven said: "I described characteristics and features such as size, shape and structure. This formed an interpretation of the fossil and correlated it to literature. It bears resemblance to the genus of Onuphionella (segmented worm); however, it did not fulfil the characteristics of previously described species. Thus, was interpreted as a new species Onuphionella corusca sp. nov."

Commissioner visits investigation hub

LANCASHIRE'S Police and Crime Commissioner, Clive Grunshaw visited one of the county's local investigation hubs to see first-hand the different roles within local policing teams in tackling crime and keeping people safe.

Specialist detectives and staff work out of three hubs across the county, investigating serious crimes that impact on the most vulnerable people, safeguarding victims and targeting offenders intent on causing most harm.

Mr Grunshaw said: "Visiting the investigation hub at Preston Police Station was a really good opportunity to see the work being done here and in similar teams across Lancashire, working tirelessly alongside response and neighbourhood teams on a range of incidents from assaults to sexual assaults and drug related offences to keep people safe and tackle those who commit crime in the county.

"Even in the relatively short time I spent with the child protection and intelligence teams within the hub, the crucial work they are doing to protect vulnerable people and catch criminals was clear to see.

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Talks on camera and film among offers at Chapel Gallery this Christmas

IF you are looking to be inspired over the Christmas break or just looking for somewhere fun to take the family during the days between Christmas and New year, West Lancs council says that Chapel Gallery has plenty to offer.

The borough council-run gallery will be open 10am–4.30pm from Thursday December 27 to Saturday December 29.

Visitors can see the Festival of Tales and Opening the Gates exhibitions and learn about photography and filmmaking.

The Festival of Tales is inspired by Ormskirk's history, with artwork produced by international, regional and local artists as well as local school children.

While Opening the Gates is set against a backdrop of the First World War that tells the story of ordinary women in West Lancashire who were thrust into occupations previously occupied by men and how, ultimately this, combined with Suffrage, led to women gaining the vote.

The Gallery Café will also be open 10am-4.30pm on all those days so you can pop in for a hot drink, mulled wine and a mince pie, or other food.

In addition, for those interested in photography and film, professional cameraman Owen Edwards from Halsall will be holding a series of talks on Friday December 28.

Owen, 21, works on professional short films with a number of companies including the BBC. In his final year of BSc Film and Television Production at University of York, he's shooting a short film towards his dissertation. To help raise funding for the film Owen is working with the Chapel Gallery to provide talks on filmmaking, photography and cameras in return for donations.

Promotional picture for Owen Edwards short film.

Halsall film student Owen Edwards who will be giving talks on film and camera at the Chapel Gallery.

Between 11am and 11.45am there will be An Introduction to Filmmaking followed by the screening of two short films between 12pm and 12.15pm.

Other talks include How to Take Better Photos and Videos (12:45pm – 1:30pm) and Camera Settings and How to Use them Creatively (2-2.45pm).

While the sessions are free, donations of £5 (or more) are welcomed. You can donate at http://chapelgallery.org.uk/help-a-film/ or in person on the day.

Councillor Yvonne Gagen, cabinet member for leisure, said: "The Chapel Gallery will be a great place to visit between Christmas and New Year, so come along to see what is on offer."

Owen's film Maketh the Man is set on the eve of World War Two, and follows Charlie, a talented young musician who dreams of leaving England for America during the golden age of jazz. But as war breaks out, pressure for him to join the RAF from his father and community mounts against him. The film plays on the feelings of uncertainty about the future which many young people are experiencing today.

Popular Solid Silver 60's Show returning to city

THE Solid Silver 60's Show will once again play to audiences up and down the UK as it has done for 34 years.

Celebrating the original package shows of the 1960's, where fans would see a raft of artists performing their hits on one bill, the Solid Silver 60's Show has performed to more than a million people since its first tour in 1985.

2019 is no different, featuring original popstars and hitmakers of the era: Peter Noone of Herman's Hermits, Brian Poole of The Tremeloes, Dave Berry, and Vanity Fare.

Famed as frontman of the successful Herman's Hermits, Peter Noone's canon of hits include: I'm Into Something Good, No Milk Today, Kind of Hush, and My Sentimental Friend. Having sold countless records worldwide, Noone has regularly toured on both sides of the Atlantic for several decades, having his first solo hit with the David Bowie-penned Oh You Pretty Things, which Bowie also performed piano on the recording of.

As lead singer of beat group The Tremeloes, Brian Poole had a number of hits that went on to become staples of the era, including their first chart entry Twist and Shout which went on to sell over a million copies, Do You Love Me, Candy Man, and Someone Someone.

One of the original teen idols, Dave Berry garnered attention for his unique live performances, appearing to the audience always hidden behind a prop, as well as his notable songs including: Memphis, Tennessee, This Strange Effect – a hit on Continental Europe particularly where he still enjoys celebrity status – and The Crying Game.

Completing the hit-laden line-up of acts will be Vanity Fare, who dominated the charts in 1970 .

The Solid Silver 60's show will be at the Liverpool Philharmonic Hall on Wednesday, April 24.

Famous whodunnit going on tour

THE Mousetrap, the legendary whodunnit from Queen of Crime, Dame Agatha Christie, today announces a major national tour opening in January 2019 starring Gwyneth Strong (Only Fools and Horses) as Mrs Boyle, directed by Gareth Armstrong.

This unstoppable West End hit has been delighting theatregoers for 67 years with its macabre murder mystery.

Following a record-breaking 60th anniversary debut tour in 2012, this timeless thriller The Mousetrap returns by popular demand, launching an extensive new tour that will travel the length and breadth of the country giving audiences all across the UK the opportunity to discover theatre's best kept secret.

The Mousetrap will be at the Southport Theatre from Monday, February 25 to Wednesday, February 27. It will also be at the Liverpool Empire from Thursday, May 30 until Saturday, June 1.

The cast also includes David Alcock (Mr Paravacini), Geoff Arnold (Detective Sgt. Trotter), Nick Biadon (Giles Ralston), Lewis Chandler (Christopher Wren), John Griffiths (Major Metcalf), Harriett Hare (Mollie Ralston) and Saskia Vaigncourt-Strallen (Miss Caswell).

Gwyneth Strong played Cassandra in the BBC sitcom Only Fools and Horses.

New Year Deadlines

Due to the festive period, the booking deadlines for advertising are as follows:

For publication Wednesday 2nd January 2019
DEADLINE
4pm on Friday 28th December 2018

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30th December: **12noon - 8.30pm**
31st December: **12noon - 2.30pm & Pre-booked tables only**
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GENTS SUIT New gents suit which still has labels on bought from Next, 36 inch waste, regular leg, jacket.Cost £130 £65 07387439004

DINNER SUIT M&S dinner suit. Jacket size medium 40" trousers 34" waist 29" leg new £175.00 only worn twice. £39. 07387439004

WOMENS JACKET padded quilt down designer jacker karki green 10-12 sits on hip doesnt have hood £35 like new logo to back shoulder 01512870112

KAREN MILLAN JEANS womens dark blue 10 bootcut crease down front on trend £25 silver logo buckle worn few times 01512870112

GLASS VASE new cackle big vase normal shape wide at bottom hour glass shape unwanted gift big fits lots flowers tkmaxx £5 01512870112

FIRETRAP JEANS mens black seal 36 inch waist 34 inside leg blue fancydetail pocket good cond£10 distressed look wear to heel 01512870112

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MISC

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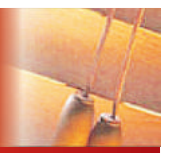
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For publication Wednesday 2nd January 2019
DEADLINE
4pm on Friday 28th December 2018

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Greenways House 258 Moorfield Lane Scarisbrick 01704 892191
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Announcements

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

HOUGHTON SYLVIA

The family would like to express their sincere thanks and appreciation to all relatives, friends and neighbours, for the many messages of condolence, sympathy cards and donations received during their very sad loss. Special thanks to Jackie at Country Florist for the beautiful floral tributes, Sandra Howles for a lovely fitting Funeral tribute and Grateful thanks to Sally Hunter and the team at MLS Independent Funeral Directors for their continued care and guidance given at such a difficult time.

Thank you all.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

HILL STEPHEN

The Family of the late Stephen Hill would like to express their heartfelt thanks to all relatives, friends, neighbours and Stephens many colleagues from The Royal Mail, for all the sympathy cards, messages of condolence and donations for Queenscourt Hospice received during their recent sad loss. Thanks also to Rev. Pauline Bicknell for a very fitting funeral service for Stephen and Lisa Hunter and the Team at MLS Independent Funeral Directors for their dignified funeral arrangements.

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DEATHS

BRAMLEY JOAN

17th December 2018
Passed away peacefully at Arranmore Park Care Home aged 91 years

Wife of the late Thomas, Much loved Mum of David, Patricia, and Son-in-law Mike, Janet & Kathleen, Much loved Nana to all her Grandchildren, Great-Grandchildren & Great Great-Grandchildren. Auntie & God Mother to Ingrid and Auntie to Muriel and Ruth. Funeral Service at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough on Thursday 3rd January at 12.15pm. Family flowers only please, but donations if so desired for Columbian Missionaries Britain.

Donations and further enquires please to Sally Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 22a, Liverpool Road North, Burscough. Tel: 01704 891555.

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DEATHS

GREGSON JOAN

17th December 2018
Peacefully in hospital aged 82 years of Skelmersdale

The dearly loved Wife of the late Thomas, loving Mum of Geoffrey, Stephen and Neil, dear Mother in law of Susan, Susan and Lisa and devoted Nan to all her Grand and Great Grandchildren. Funeral service and interment at St Paul's Church, Skelmersdale on Wednesday 9th January 2019 at 1:15pm. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122/720012

To place a family **announcement** please call 01704 392392 or visit champnews.com

DEATHS

GARDNER BRENDA

Much loved Mum of Lewis. Devoted Wife of Jim. Loving and Devoted Sister to Ronnie. Dear Aunt of Anna, Karen and Susan. Brenda will be sadly missed by all who knew her. Funeral Service will take place at St John the Baptist Church, School Lane, Burscough on Friday 4th January 2019 at 2pm, followed by interment in the Churchyard. Family flowers only please, but donations are being gratefully received by the family for Queenscourt Hospice. Further enquiries please to Cookson Tyrer Funeral Directors, 2 Smithy Walk, Burscough, Lancashire L40 5UU Tel 01704 897770.

DEATHS

CONLAN EDDIE

Peacefully after a short illness on 9th December 2018

Much loved Dad of Paula, Lynne and Duncan. Granddad to seven lovely Grandchildren. Funeral Service and Committal will take place at Thornton Garden of Rest on Wednesday 2nd January 2019 at 12.40pm. Family flowers only by request but the family are gratefully receiving donations for Marie Curie. Further enquiries please to: Maghull Co-Operative Funeralcare, 36 Westway, Maghull, L31 0AB. Tel: 0151 527 1709.

GLEAVES CATHERINE (CATHLEEN)

Died peacefully in Warren Park Care Home, Blundellsands on 9th December 2018 Aged 72 years

Dearly beloved Brother of Bernard, Rose, Joan and the late Harry, loving Auntie to Anne, Victoria, Sarah, Carolyn, Julie and John. Funeral service to be held at St. Joseph's Church, Blundellsands on Friday 4th January 2019 at 11.00am followed by burial at Ford Cemetery at 12.15pm. Her nature was loving and giving. Her heart was made of pure gold. To us who truly loved her, her memory will never grow old. Reunited with Mam and Dad. All enquiries to H.Leslie Humphreys, 69 Liverpool Road, Crosby, Liverpool L23 5SE. Tel 0151 924 4805

LAWRENSON JANE

11th December 2018
Peacefully in hospital aged 93 years

The dearly loved Wife of the late Thomas and loving Mum of David. Funeral service and interment at St Paul's Church, Skelmersdale on Wednesday 2nd January 2019 at 11:30am.

All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122/720012

DEATHS

EMERY TOM

Passed away peacefully at home 19th December 2018 aged 80 years

Beloved Husband of Jackie and a Loving Dad, Granddad and friend. The funeral service will be held at Our Lady & All Saints Church Parbold at 12 Noon followed by interment in the church yard. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to Leukaemia Research c/o the funeral director. all enquiries R.Banks & Son (Funerals) Ltd. Clifford House, 1 Grove Lane Standish, WN6 0ES TEL: 01257 422011

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it's not just once a year,
it's everyday that passes
we wish that you were here,
we talk of all the fun we had,
your smile lit up the room,
if only we could hug and kiss you,
the way we used to do.

A little bit of us went with you,
and you're in our hearts to stay,
until we meet again Jay,
the pain and tears will stay.
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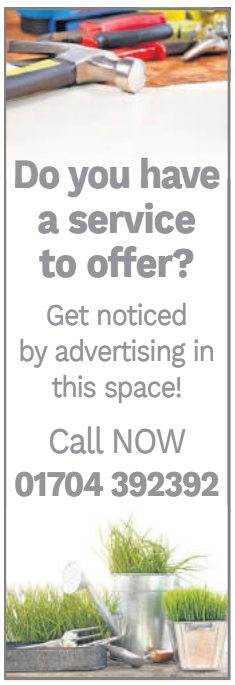

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Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 15

APPLICATION(S) FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

2018/1298/FUL Construction of spanish polytunnels and irrigation lagoon (retrospective) at Willow Farm, Boundary Meanygate, Hesketh Bank.
2018/1304/OUT Outline - Residential development including details of access (all other matters reserved) at ORM Works & Former Railway Tavern, Railway Road, Skelmersdale.
2018/1307/LBC Listed Building Consent - Proposed platform alterations to allow for reguaging for new rolling stock at Ormskirk Railway Station, Station Approach, Ormskirk.
The application affects a Listed Building.
The application affects a Conservation Area.
The applications are available for viewing on the Council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning. Alternatively, the application can be viewed during normal office hours at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and at 1st Floor, The Concourse, Skelmersdale. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e-mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or in writing to Development and Regeneration Services, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 24 days of the date of this notice quoting the application number.
Applications for Minor Commercial and Householder Development
In the event that an appeal is made against a decision of the Council to refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development, and that appeal then proceeds by way of the expedited procedure under the written representations procedure, any representations made to the Council about an application will be passed to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations.
How information about you will be used
The personal data you provide will be used as part of the Council's statutory planning duties in processing planning and related applications. Some of the personal information, including your name and address, you provide will be published. For further information about this notice or how we use your personal data please see: http://www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning/planning-privacy-notices/level-2-development-management-cil-privacy-notice.aspx and http://www.westlancs.gov.uk/about-the-council/legal-statements-and-foi/privacy-and-data-protection-gdpr.aspx. Hard copies are available on request.

John R Harrison DipEnvP., MRTPI Director of Development and Regeneration
Dated: 27th December 2018
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Top tips to stay safe while driving in winter

MOTORING experts have released guidelines for British car owners to winter-proof their vehicles, inside and out.

Drivers have been warned by experts at leasecar.uk about making sure their vehicles are suitable for cold and icy conditions this winter as roads deteriorate and become more dangerous. They are being warned to get their vehicles ready for winter or face uncomfortable – and even dangerous – journeys by winter-proofing their vehicles, inside and out.

Gareth Roberts from the company said: "Many motorists fail to prepare for the colder months and feel the consequences of uncomfortable, miserable journeys.

"Driving from November onwards can be rough for Brits but doing a little extra preparation and having useful items to hand will make travelling during the winter more pleasant.

"A reassured, comfortable and focussed motorist will drive better and safer; a prepared car owner won't need to panic in the event of bad weather. Many motorists fail to prepare for the colder months and feel the consequences of uncomfortable, miserable journeys.

"But life can't stop for a bit of snow, ice, wind or rain, so we have put together some advice that any driver can use to avoid discomfort and distraction when driving in bad weather."

Here are his top tips:

1.Clear vision.

Leaving a vehicle parked anywhere during the winter months is an open invitation for a frozen windscreen, so make sure that can of de-icer on the back seat isn't empty and always have a suitable scraper to hand. It is also essential to pack a cloth or old rag to wipe glass on the inside, as having the heater on full blast will lead to condensation sooner or later, when the warmth meets the cold air from outside on the windows.

2.Keep fuelled.

It is even more vital to keep on top of filling up with petrol in the winter, to avoid being left stranded in the cold – aim to always have a quarter of the tank full. Keeping yourself fuelled is equally important and precautions should be taken in case of delays or breakdowns; keep a bottle of water in the car, hide an energy-filled snack such as a chocolate bar in the glovebox for emergencies or a tasty pick-me-up and on a long journey take a flask with a hot drink in it as well.

3.Warm clothes.

All drivers could be vulnerable to forgetfulness on a cold morning, so prepare for the worst weather by making sure there are gloves, a scarf, a hat and a thick pair of socks tucked away in your vehicle.

Should the heating or car itself break down, it is also advisable to have a spare jumper, thermal blanket or chemical heat packs in the boot.

4.Good wheels.

Ensure there is sufficient grip on every tyre to see the vehicle through a winter of journeys on slippery roads. As well as this, drivers need to have accessible wheel chains if it is necessary to travel through the snow.

There are seven top tips for helping you with your winter journeys

5.Accessories.

The best prepared British motorists will have their vehicle well stocked with useful items to see them through the winter.

A full portable phone charger in a glovebox is essential in case of a breakdown, an old-fashioned paper map is always an advisable back up to a sat-nav. Meanwhile, a packet of tissues is a must to avoid distraction on the roads.

6.Winter tools.

It is recommended that drivers keep a snow shovel in their boot for if the car becomes stuck and a pair of sturdy walking boots if shelter must be sought on foot - as well as the warm clothing mentioned for drivers and passengers.

7.Maintenance.

Extra care needs to be taken over the condition of vehicles during the winter months, so motorists should reassure themselves by regularly checking all of their safety essentials like the brakes and the windscreen wipers.

They can do this themselves or book in to stop off at a garage before they set off as well as keeping on top of having the car regularly serviced and oil and radiator topped up.

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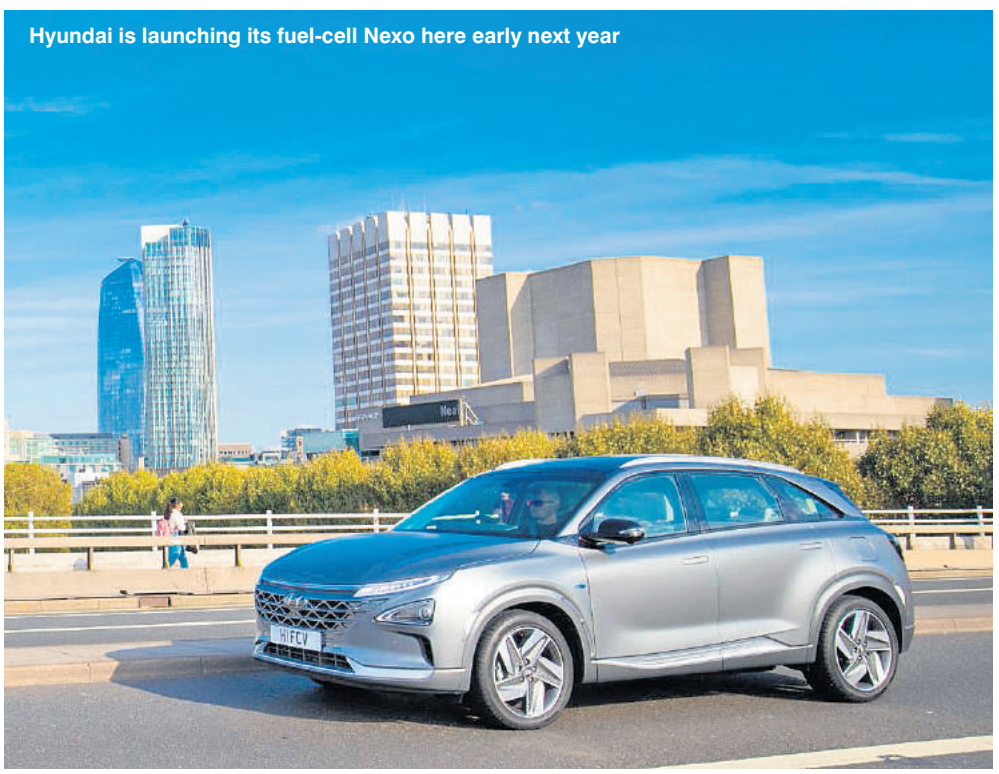
Go to euroncap.com to find out how the car that you're thinking of buying performed.

For more information about the Nexo or any other models in the Hyundai range, you can research this by visiting the company's website at hyundai.co.uk



Hyundai is launching its fuel-cell Nexo here early next year

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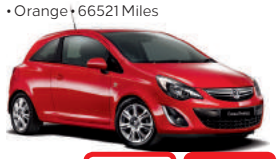

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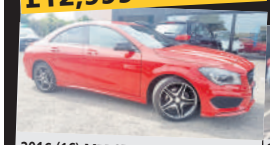
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